



CWD

Where can I learn more?

- Pennsylvania Game Commission
www.pgc.pa.gov/cwd
- PA Department of Agriculture
www.agriculture.pa.gov
- Chronic Wasting Disease Alliance
www.cwd-info.org
- Center for Disease Control
www.cdc.gov
- World Health Organization
www.who.int/en

A deer exhibiting late-stage symptoms of CWD.



Dr. Mike Miller,
CO Division of Wildlife

PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION

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Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797
717-787-4250 www.pgc.pa.gov



Region Offices
Northwest: 814-432-3187
Southwest: 724-238-9523
Northcentral: 570-398-4744
Southcentral: 814-643-1831
Northeast: 570-675-1143
Southeast: 610-926-3136



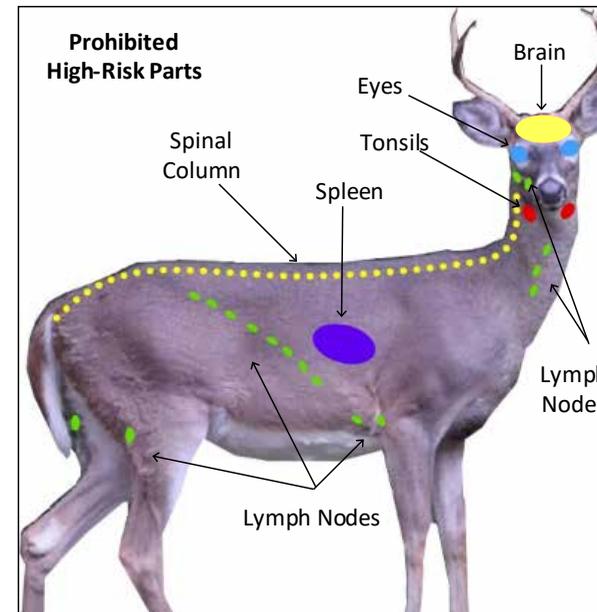
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*Questions and Answers about
Chronic Wasting Disease
in Pennsylvania.*

CERVID PARTS MOVEMENT BAN

To help prevent CWD from being spread within the state, the Game Commission has banned the importation of specific carcass parts from any state or Canadian province. Export of these parts from any Disease Management Areas or Established Areas within Pennsylvania is also prohibited.



Permitted Parts

The following cervid parts may be safely transported into and within Pennsylvania. These parts may be moved out of Pennsylvania's Disease Management Areas and Established Area.

- Meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached
- Cleaned hides without the head
- Skull plates and/or antlers cleaned of all brain tissue
- Upper canine teeth without soft tissue
- Finished taxidermy mounts

What is being done to manage CWD in Pennsylvania?

Several state and federal agencies, including the Game Commission, Pennsylvania departments of Agriculture (PDA), Health (PDH), and Environmental Protection (DEP), and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) completed a response plan, which details methods of prevention, surveillance, and response designed to manage CWD. Activities designed to reduce the risks associated with this disease are ongoing. Surveillance for CWD began in Pennsylvania in 1998 and will continue in order to understand the prevalence and distribution of the disease.

What can I do to help?

Do not feed deer or elk. Supplemental feeding causes deer and elk to concentrate, which facilitates the spread of diseases like CWD. Express concerns about CWD to your political representatives. Support increased financial assistance for wildlife and agricultural agencies to combat CWD. Encourage officials at all levels of government to support the steps necessary to slow the spread of CWD across Pennsylvania. If you see a deer or elk displaying symptoms of CWD, report it to the appropriate Game Commission region office.

Attention Processors & Taxidermists

If you are presented with deer, elk, or moose body parts harvested in CWD-infected areas, please contact the nearest Game Commission region office for guidance. An agency representative may collect tissue samples, discuss proper processing and disposal procedures, and provide information to hunters.

What is Chronic Wasting Disease?

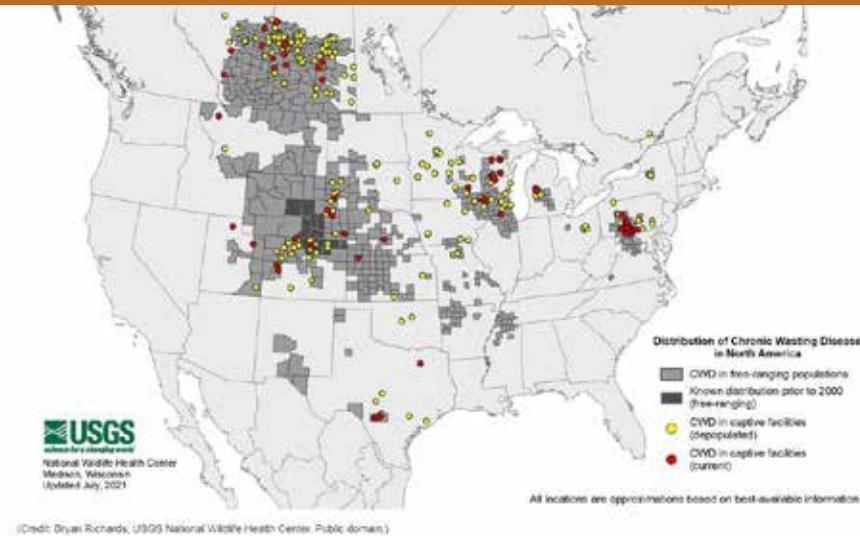
Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a member of the transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE) family of diseases that includes Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) or Mad Cow Disease in cattle; Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) in humans; and Scrapie in sheep and goats. It affects members of the cervid (deer) family and was first recognized in Colorado mule deer in 1967. CWD is an incurable, untreatable, always fatal brain disease caused by a misshapen protein known as a prion.

How is it spread?

CWD is transmitted both directly through animal-to-animal contact and indirectly through food and soil contaminated with bodily excretions including feces, urine and saliva. Contaminated carcasses or high-risk carcass parts may also spread the disease indirectly through environmental contamination, which lasts for years, if not decades.

How can I tell if an animal has CWD?

Animals infected with CWD may not show signs of infection for 12 or more months. Late-stage symptoms of CWD-infected animals include an extreme loss of body condition; excessive drinking, urination, salivation and drooling; and behavioral and neurologic changes such as repetitive walking patterns, droopy ears, a wide-based stance, and listlessness. Some animals lose their fear of humans and predators. There is no known cure. It is important to note that these symptoms are characteristic of many diseases other than CWD. Confirming an animal is infected with CWD requires laboratory testing of the brain or lymph nodes of the head.



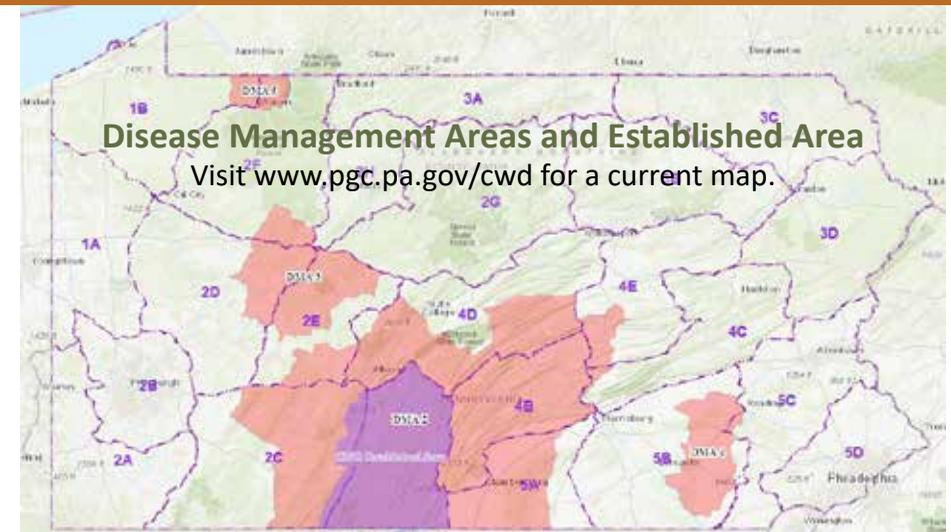
Where has CWD been found?

Pennsylvania detected its first case of CWD in 2012 in Adams County. Currently, there are four active Disease Management Areas (DMAs). DMA 2 covers more than 7,740 square miles, and includes all or parts of Adams, Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Centre, Clearfield, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Indiana, Juniata, Mifflin, Perry, Northumberland, Snyder, Somerset, Union and Westmoreland counties. DMA 3 covers more than 1,260 square miles in all or parts of Armstrong, Clarion, Clearfield, Jefferson and Indiana counties. DMA 4 covers more than 740 square miles in all or parts of Berks, Lebanon and Lancaster counties. DMA 5 covers more than 210 square miles in Warren County.

What if I'm hunting in an area where CWD is known to exist?

Follow these guidelines to prevent the spread of the disease:

- Be familiar with the regulations and guidelines for the transportation of harvested game where you are hunting as well as the Pennsylvania Cervid Parts Importation Ban (see back panel).
- Bone out the meat from your animal.
- Minimize the handling of and cutting through brain and spinal tissues.
- Process the animal near the area where it was harvested so high-risk parts can be disposed of properly. It is illegal to import high-risk parts into Pennsylvania or out of Disease Management Areas (DMAs) and Established Areas (EAs) within Pennsylvania.
- Ask your butcher to process your meat individually, without meat from other animals; or process your own meat.
- Only bring low-risk parts back to Pennsylvania or out of a DMA or EA.
- Have your animal tested and do not consume animals that test positive for CWD.
- Do not consume parts of any animal testing positive for CWD or displaying outward signs of disease.



What precautions should I take?

Hunters should wear gloves while field dressing. Thoroughly clean hands and processing tools with soap and hot water; spray all surfaces with 40% bleach (2 parts household bleach + 3 parts water) and allow to air dry. If you encounter a visibly sick deer while hunting and have the opportunity and license to harvest it, please do so. Then contact the Game Commission region office to surrender the deer for testing and receive a replace harvest tag.

Where can I have my animal tested?

Hunters can submit their harvested deer to the Pennsylvania Animal Diagnostic Laboratory System for testing; for a fee. The Chronic Wasting Disease Submission Form for hunters can be found at www.padls.org.

Deer taken within DMAs and EAs can be submitted for free testing at locations listed on the "Where Can I Take My Deer?" map found at: www.pgc.pa.gov/cwd.